

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A flue connection system for an appliance, the flue connection system comprising:

a flue connection member including a plate portion having a top surface and a bottom surface and defining a first aperture, and including an extending member extending beyond the top and bottom surfaces of the plate member in alignment with the first aperture, the extending member being configured to be coupled to a flue duct; and

an appliance connection member configured to be attached to an outside surface of the appliance, the appliance connection member defining a second aperture, the second aperture including a seat, the plate portion of the flue connection member further comprising an ~~opening~~ alignment notch through at least a portion of the plate and the appliance connection member further comprising ~~[[a]]~~ an alignment tab that extends in a generally perpendicular direction beyond a top surface of a plate portion of the appliance connection member, wherein the alignment tab extends into the opening alignment notch when the flue connection member and the appliance connection member are coupled together to insure correct alignment of the flue connection member and the appliance connection member, and the extending member extending beyond the bottom surface of the plate member mates with the seat of the second aperture, with the first and second apertures aligned to provide fluid communication between the appliance and the flue duct.

2. (Original) The flue connection system of claim 1, wherein the extending member defines the first aperture.

3. (Canceled)

4. (Original) The flue connection system of claim 1, wherein the appliance connection member has a plate portion.
5. (Canceled)
6. (Previously Amended) The flue connection system of claim 1, the appliance connection member comprising a seating member that defines the second aperture, wherein the seating member is positioned such that when the flue connection member is positioned on top of the appliance connection member, the portion of the extending member that extends beyond the bottom surface of the plate portion of the flue connection member extends into the seating member.
7. (Cancelled)
8. (Previously Presented) The flue connection system of claim 1, wherein the appliance connection member comprises at least one latching member that is movably mounted, wherein the latching member is positioned so that when the flue connection member is positioned on top of the appliance connection member, the latching member can be moved so that it extends over a top surface of the flue connection member to couple the flue connection member to the appliance connection member.
9. (Original) The flue connection system of claim 1, wherein the appliance is a fireplace.
10. (Original) The flue connection system of claim 9, wherein the fireplace is a slant back type fireplace insert.
11. (Currently Amended) An appliance, the appliance comprising:
 - a combustion chamber;
 - a combustible source that produces exhaust gases;
 - a vent system for venting exhaust gases from the combustion chamber to outside of the appliance, the vent system including a vent opening in the appliance, the vent opening including

a seat; and

a flue connection member, the flue connection member including a plate portion having top and bottom surfaces and defining an aperture, the flue connection member including a hollow cylindrical extending member in alignment with the aperture and configured to be coupled to a flue duct, the extending member having a circular cross-section extending beyond the top and bottom surfaces of the plate member,

wherein the flue connection member is further configured to be coupled to the appliance to substantially align the aperture of the flue connection member with the vent opening of the vent system, wherein the plate portion of the flue connection member comprises [[a]] an alignment notch and the appliance comprises [[a]] an alignment tab that extends generally perpendicularly outward from the appliance, wherein the opening and the alignment tab are positioned such that when the flue connection member is positioned in contact with the appliance the alignment tab extends into the alignment notch to insure correct alignment of the flue connection member and the appliance connection member and the extending member extending beyond the bottom surface of the plate member mates with the seat of the vent opening.

12. (Original) The flue connection system of claim 11 wherein the extending member defines the aperture.
13. (Canceled)
14. (Canceled)
15. (Previously Amended) The flue connection system of claim 11, the appliance comprising a seating member that defines the vent opening, wherein the seating member is positioned such that when the flue connection member is positioned in contact with the appliance, the portion of the extending member that extends beyond the bottom surface of the plate portion of the flue connection member extends into the seating member.
16. (Canceled)

17. (Previously Presented) The flue connection system of claim 11, wherein the appliance comprises at least one latching member that is movably mounted to the appliance, wherein the latching member is positioned such that when the flue connection member is positioned on top of the appliance, the latching member can be moved so that it extends over a top surface of the flue connection member to couple the flue connection member to the appliance.

18. (Original) The flue connection system of claim 11, wherein the appliance is a fireplace.

19. (Original) The flue connection system of claim 18, wherein the fireplace is a slant back type fireplace insert.

20. - 25. (Canceled)

26. (Currently Amended) A method of coupling a flue duct to an appliance using a flue connection member, the appliance including a vent system having a primary surface and defining a vent aperture with a seat, and the flue connection member defining a first aperture and including two cylindrical extensions extending in an up and down direction from a top and a bottom surface of the flue connection member and aligned with the first aperture, the method comprising the steps of:

coupling the flue duct to the cylindrical extension extending from the top surface of the flue connection member;

moving the flue connection member in a direction non-parallel to the vent system primary surface to align the first aperture with the vent aperture, wherein alignment is insured by positioning a flue connection member alignment notch over an alignment tab that extends generally perpendicular from the primary surface; and

coupling the flue connection member to the appliance-by inserting a portion of the cylindrical extension extending from the bottom surface of the flue connection member into the vent aperture and mating the cylindrical extension with the seat of the vent aperture.

27. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 26, wherein the appliance further includes an appliance connection member defining a second aperture, the method further

comprising aligning the second aperture with the vent aperture and the first aperture, and coupling the appliance connection member between the appliance and the flue connection member.

28. (Canceled)

29. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 26, wherein the vent system further defines a first inlet aperture and the flue connection member further defines a second inlet aperture, and the moving step includes moving the flue connection member to align the first inlet aperture with the second inlet aperture.

30. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 27, wherein the vent system further defines a first inlet aperture, the flue connection member further includes a second inlet aperture, and the appliance connection member defining a third inlet aperture, the moving step further including moving the flue connection member to align the second inlet aperture with the first inlet aperture, and the aligning step further including aligning the third inlet aperture with the first inlet aperture and the second inlet aperture.

31. (Currently Amended) A method of coupling a flue duct to an appliance using a flue connection member, the appliance including a vent system having a primary surface and defining a vent aperture with a seat, and the flue connection member defining a first aperture and including two cylindrical extensions extending from a top and a bottom surface of the flue connection member and aligned with the first aperture, the method comprising the steps of:

coupling the flue duct to the cylindrical extension extending from the top surface of the flue connection member;

moving the flue connection member in a direction non-parallel to the vent system primary surface to align the first aperture with the vent aperture, wherein alignment is insured by positioning a flue connection member alignment notch over an alignment tab that extends generally perpendicular from the primary surface; and

coupling the flue connection member to the appliance by inserting the cylindrical

extension extending from the bottom surface of the flue connection member into the vent aperture into engagement with the seat.